THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (c) The Government have noted the steps taken by the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal to strengthen security for foreign airlines operating to/from Kathmandu. Our experts have assessed these positively and feel that this would meet the requirement of our airline. In view of this, it has been decided to resume Indian Airlines flights to Nepal as soon as the ground arrangements have been put in place.

Contract to Midos for carrying Haj Pilgrims

4564. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have awarded contract to UK based Midos for carrying Haj Pilgrims;

(b) whether Government are facing serious charge of kickbacks in such deal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the terms and conditions laid down in awarding contract to UK based Midos?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, press reports have appeared on this issue. The allegations are being looked into.

(d) The terms & conditions laid down in the Agreement made on 19.1.2000 are (i) The company agrees to provide 3 B747 and 3 LO11 type of aircraft; (ii) The company shall position the aircraft at the disposal of Air India, failing which Air India shall have the option to terminate the agreement; (iii) The company agrees to carry a minimum of 70,000 pilgrims; (iv) The company will be responsible to bear all costs, expenses and losses suffered by Air India for delay on the part of company in operating flights and (v) The company agree to charge USD 523 per pilgrim on the basis of ACMI + Fuel (fuel prices will be determined on the basis of actual wighted average fuel price).